Let's Talk! About 'unseen Disabilities'

Center for Persons With Disabilities

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LET'S TALK! ABOUT 'UNSEEN DISABILITIES'

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By definition, "unseen disabilities" are not immediately apparent in an individual. A wide range of medical conditions fall into this category, such as deafness, diabetes, epilepsy, or mental illness. Even someone who is mildly to moderately cognitively impaired may not appear to have a disability right away. An unseen disability may be found at birth or appear later on in life, or even as a result of an accident, as in the case of someone with a traumatic brain injury.

People with unseen disabilities are often viewed as not having a disability at all, simply because they do not look out of the ordinary.

But, that can create many problems, especially if they need accommodations in order to function and succeed in school, a job, and daily life situations.

This Let's Talk discussion is about the experiences that those with unseen disabilities have had, both negative and positive.

What has been the hardest thing that you or your family member with an unseen disability has had to deal with?

How have the schools worked with you or your family member who has an unseen disability?

How do people with unseen disabilities communicate with their employers in order to receive the accommodations and understanding that they need to hold down a job?

What advice would you give to someone with an unseen disability to help them be successful?

Ready, set... Let's Talk!

Please let us know of other topics that you would like to talk about.

(Note: All comments will be filtered to maintain confidentiality and appropriateness.)